

Secondly, we're spending a lot of money on developing ways to diversify away from a hydrocarbon society. America must do that for national security reasons and economic security reasons. And that's why I laid out the Hydrogen Fuel Cell Initiative, with the understanding that our country is going to have to diversify away from the type of automobiles we drive.

And it's beginning to happen here. We'll have more fuel cells—cars driven by fuel cells on the road next year than we had the past year, and more after that. We're beginning to change. Technology is changing how we can approach energy, and the technology—mating technology and energy independence from hydrocarbon also will produce a cleaner environment.

We're spending a lot of money on clean coal technology. That's going to be very important for a country like ours and a country like China. And one of the issues we've got to deal—figure out how to deal with is how we share that technology with developing nations. You cannot leave developing nations out of the mix if you expect to have a cleaner world.

I strongly believe that the world needs to share technologies on nuclear power. I don't see how you can be—diversify away from hydrocarbons unless you use clean nuke. And so we need to work together on developing technologies that will not only ensure people that nuclear power will be safe but that we can dispose of it in a safe way.

I'll tell you an interesting opportunity for not only here but for the rest of the world is biodiesel. That is a fuel developed from soybeans. I kind of, in jest, like to travel our country, saying, "Wouldn't it be wonderful if someday the President sat down and looked at the crop report, and said, 'Man, we've got a lot of soybeans. It means we're less dependent on foreign sources of energy.' " We're spending money to figure out how best to refine soy into diesel.

See, there's a lot of things we're doing in America, and I believe that not only can we solve greenhouse gas, I believe we will. And I appreciate the Prime Minister bringing this issue up. I look forward to sharing that which we know here in America with not only the G-8 members but, equally importantly, with

developing countries. And not only that, I'm convinced that we can use technology to help keep the air cleaner and the water purer and develop economies around the world at the same time. That's going to be one of the great advances in technology in the coming years.

Thank you for your question. Good to see you all.

NOTE: The President's news conference began at 4:46 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Cherie Booth Blair, wife of Prime Minister Blair; former President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; and musician and activist Bono.

### Remarks Following Discussions With Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey

June 8, 2005

**President Bush.** Mr. Prime Minister, welcome to the Oval Office. We've had an extensive visit about a lot of issues, and the reason why is because Turkey and the United States has an important strategic relationship. I told the Prime Minister how grateful I was that he was a—is a strong supporter of the broader Middle Eastern initiative. Turkey's democracy is an important example for the people in the broader Middle East, and I want to thank you for your leadership.

Along these lines, I thanked the Prime Minister for Turkey's leadership role in Afghanistan. I was most impressed by his report from his trip to Afghanistan and his deep concern for the conditions of the people there and his desire to work with the United States and NATO countries to help improve the lives of the children, for example, in Afghanistan.

We discussed a lot of foreign policy and shared interests between our countries. And one of the most important foreign policy initiatives of my administration—and I know the Prime Minister shares the same desire—is to work with the Palestinians so they can have their own state, their own democracy, living side by side in peace with Israel.

And finally, we discussed the domestic issues. We discussed our economies, and the Prime Minister reminded me that the—in his judgment, Turkey is a good place for U.S.

investment. I listened very carefully to what he had to say, but we spent—all in all, it was a very rich and important discussion.

Mr. Prime Minister, thank you for coming.

**Prime Minister Erdogan.** Thank you, Mr. President. In our meeting with the President, we discussed and evaluated the political partnership that we have with the United States, and we looked into the future with regard to our relations. I can summarize the main titles of our discussion as freedom, democracy, rule of law, fight against terrorism, security, and human rights.

We also had an opportunity to talk about the broader Middle East initiative, with regard to regional developments. We also discussed the Cyprus issue. And we were able to discuss with some depth the issues with regard to Israel, Palestine, the situation in Iraq, Afghanistan.

We discussed and I'm confident that we will continue to have the same kind of solidarity we've had in Turkish-U.S. relations in the past, in the future as well.

I also mentioned to the President that Turkey is open to any new investment as a country now of stability and security. And we were very happy to see that the President agreed that he had a positive view on investments.

And we're happy that we were able to confirm that our strategic relationship will move and will take place in the future, as it has been done in the past.

Thank you.

**President Bush.** Thank you, sir. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:25 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. Prime Minister Erdogan spoke in Turkish, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

### Remarks at the Associated Builders and Contractors National Legislative Conference

June 8, 2005

Thank you all. Please be seated. Thanks for coming. Thanks for the warm welcome. Thanks for the kind introduction, Gary, it's good to keep it in the old Texas family. [Laughter] All you other Texans who are

here, make sure you behave yourself. [Laughter]

But I'm really honored to be here. I appreciate ABC; I appreciate your leadership. I appreciate the entrepreneurial spirit. I appreciate the fact that you're hiring people and making your communities better in which you live. I want to thank Carole Bionda and Kirk Pickerel and the board of directors for having me here.

You made a mistake, you should have invited Laura—[laughter]—to be your speaker, if you were looking for the A-team in our family. She's become quite the comedienne. [Laughter] I'm pleased to report, though, that she's doing great. I'm a lucky man when she said yes when I asked her to marry me. And I think the country is lucky to have her as the First Lady.

You know, I came to Washington to get some things done. This isn't my permanent home. I'm going to give it my all, put my energy into the job, and pour my soul into my work, and when time is up, I'm going to head back home. But I want it to be said that my administration came to Washington, DC, to solve problems. And when we had a problem—that we square—that we dealt with it squarely. And we did it based upon principle. And we've been presented with some problems in this administration. One of them was a recession, because of an enemy attack and the downcycle in the economy. We had to deal with the recession.

And at the heart of my decisionmaking was my understanding that most new jobs in America are created by small businesses, and therefore any relief, any decisions as to how to deal with the recession had to be good policy for small businesses. And the tax relief we passed made a difference for our small businesses here in America.

And the economic policy is working. I mean, after all, more people work in America today than ever before in our Nation's history. The unemployment rate is down to 5.1 percent. Small businesses are flourishing. The entrepreneurial spirit is strong. But there's more work to be done; there's more work to be done.

One of the main jobs we have here in Washington is to protect our country. You see, not only did the attacks help accelerate